REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 11, 2003 (Paper No. 14). Claims 1 and 19 to 30 are in the application, of which Claim 1 is the only independent claim. Claims 2, 3, 6, 8 to 11 and 16 to 18 are being cancelled, and Claim 1 is being amended, herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

With regard to a formal matter, the Office Action requests verification that the subject application and the U.S. Application No. 09/193,874 are commonly-owned. In response, Applicants submit that both the subject application and U.S. Application No. 09/193,874 are assigned to Canon Kabushiki Kaisha ,as evidenced by the assignments recorded with the United States Patent and Trademark Office at reel no. 12297, frame no. 853, and reel no. 9599, frame no. 0004, respectively.

By the Office Action, Claims 1 to 3, 6, 8 to 11 and 16 to 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over JP 11-151,233 (Nonaka) and U.S. Patent No. 5,060,069 (Aoki).

Without conceding the correctness of the rejection, Claims 2, 3, 6, 8 to 11 and 16 to 18 are being cancelled, rendering their rejection moot. With regard to the remaining claims, reconsideration and withdrawal of their rejection are respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

The invention concerns an image sensing apparatus comprising a radiation generating apparatus, an input means, a sensor unit, a first power supply circuit, a read-out circuit, a second power supply circuit, and a control circuit. The radiation generating

apparatus generates radiation, and the input means is used for inputting at least one of an exposure preparation signal and an exposure request signal for said radiation generator. The first power supply circuit supplies electrical power to the sensor unit, which includes a plurality of pixels for detecting an object image. The second power supply circuit supplies electrical power to the read-out circuit, which reads out signals from the plurality of pixels. The control circuit controls the radiation generating apparatus, the sensor unit, the first power supply circuit, the read-out circuit and the second power supply circuit, wherein the control circuit controls the second power supply circuit to start a supply of electrical power to the read-out circuit after or at the same time of controlling the first power supply circuit to supply the electrical power to said sensor unit.

Thus, according to certain of the features of the invention, the control circuit controls the second power supply circuit to start an electrical power supply to the read-out circuit, which reads signals from the sensor unit's pixels after or at the same time as the first power supply circuit supplies electrical power to the sensor unit.

The applied art, namely Nonaka and Aoki, is not seen to teach or to suggest these features.

It is conceded, at page 5 of the Office Action, that Nonaka fails to disclose a control circuit adapted to control power supply to a sensor at a first timing and to supply to supply electric power to a read-out circuit independently of supplying power to the sensor.

Nonaka is also not seen to disclose or even to suggest first and second power supply circuits and a control unit controlling them, such that the second power supply circuit starts supplying power to the read-out circuit reading signals from pixels of

the sensor unit after or at the same time the first power supply circuit supplies power to the sensor unit.

More particularly, Nonaka is seen to describe an arrangement in which a sensor transmits an exposure permission signal after completion of a sensor refresh operation.

However, Nonaka is not seen to disclose or to suggest a control circuit adapted to control a first power supply to supply electric power to a sensor and to control a second power supply to supply power to a read-out circuit, and is not seen to disclose or to suggest that the control circuit controls the second power supply to supply power to the read-out circuit after or at the same time of controlling the first power supply to supply power to the sensor.

Aoki is also not seen to disclose or to suggest these features. Aoki is seen to describe a control circuit that controls power supply to either a picture signal processing circuit or a compression processing circuit. (See Aoki, Abstract, col. 2, lines 40 to 50 and elements 18 and 22 of Figure 1.) Thus, Aoki is merely seen to describe supplying power independently for the image signal processing circuit 18 and the compression processing circuit 22. However, nothing in Aoki is seen to disclose a control circuit controlling first and second power supply circuits to supply power to a read-out circuit reading pixels of a sensor unit after or at the same time that the first power supply circuit supplies power to the sensor unit.

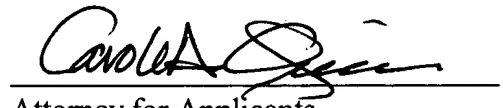
Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims are each dependent from Claim 1 and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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